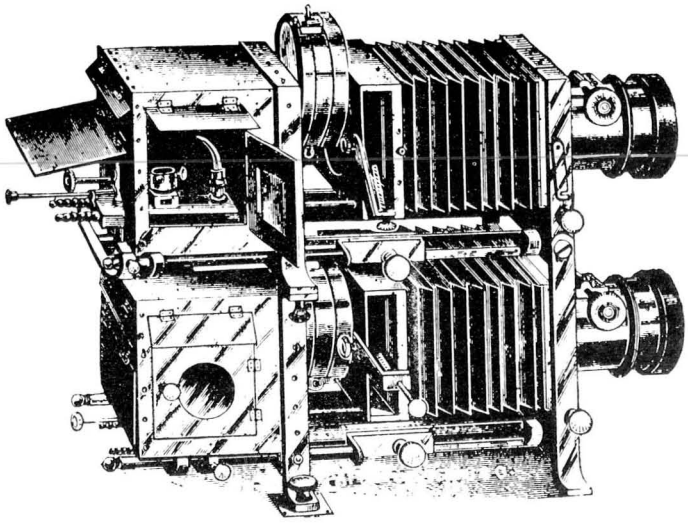

THE
MAGIC LANTERN
BULLETIN

VOL. XVII, NO. 1
OCT. 1987

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dick Balzer

I hope it has been a good summer for all of you. For my family and me the summer seems almost to have vanished before we really got a chance to enjoy it. One of the highlights of the summer was the Magic Lantern Convention held in Boston at the end of June.The convention was a great success by all accounts. It was a time for old friends to get reacquainted and trade stories and material. It was a time to meet new members. It was a chance to watch some very entertaining programs and to hear some thoughtful and scholarly talks. It was a time to make new purchases and sell off old items. It was what a convention is supposed to be, a time and place for people to meet and devote energy to something they passionately care about — in our case, the magic lantern. Leora Wells has captured the flavor of the event in her article which appears in this edition of the *Bulletin.*

All agreed one of the highlights of the convention was the registration folder, two reprints of 19th century children's "chap books" about the magic lantern, two reprinted postcards with magic lanterns, a magic lantern thaumatrope and magic lantern flip book designed exclusively for the convention by member Ruth Hayes, and a rubber stamp made for the convention by member Larry Rakow. My new book, *Optical Amusement: Magic Lanterns and Other Transforming Images,* was also available. In addition, we took the logo of the convention and reproduced it on tee shirts, aprons and a tote bag. There was much enthusiasm about these materials and members who didn't have the opportunity to attend the convention but might like to order things can contact me.

Apron	$11.00
T-Shirt	7.00
Cloth Bag	10.00
Flip Book	5.00
Post Cards	2/.75
Book	18.95

1987 Convention Logo

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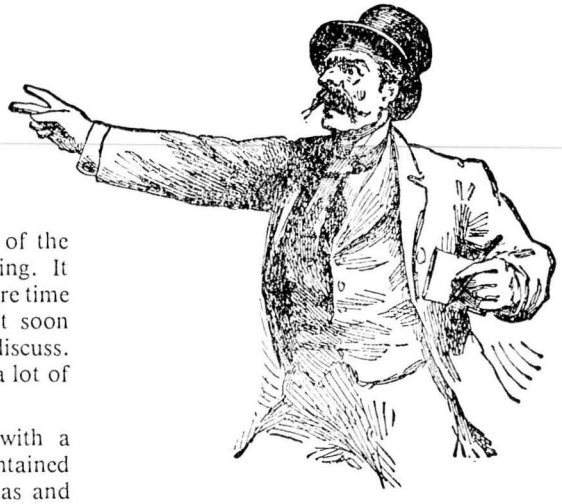
THE BUSINESS MEETING



One of the most important aspects of the convention was our business meeting. It was too bad that I did not budget more time for the business meeting because it soon became clear that we all had a lot to discuss. In spite of the abbreviated meeting a lot of things came out.

Terry Borton began the meeting with a Treasurer's Report (an update is contained in this *Bulletin*). The good news was and still is that financially our society is in decent shape. However, to our collective surprise and dismay we found that our membership which I and others had assumed was hovering around 130 members, had mysteriously slipped below 80. Everyone agreed that we needed to do something immediately to rectify this situation. There were a number of good ideas as to how to increase the society's membership. Terry Borton has agreed to lead a Membership Drive Committee.

Larry Rakow gave the Editor's Report. He appologized for not having put out a *Bulletin* in several months, but explained that he is preoccupied with his relatively new and growing business, Kidstamps. Larry, thankfully, will not be totally withdrawing from our publishing ventures. He has kindly agreed to take on the new responsibility of heading special publications. As many of you realize, Larry has helped in getting several issues of the *Original 19th Century Magic Lantern Journal* published, and he will continue with this and other special publications undertaken by the society.

Dick Evans, who deserves all the praise we can heap on him for the extraordinary job he did of printing all the material for the convention, has agreed to be in charge of a special reprint committee. I have asked Dick to outline his reprint idea in this *Bulletin*.

I raised for discussion the possibility of our beginning discussions with our sister society in England about a possible merger, an idea that Tony Dugdale, Chairman of the British society, and I have discussed informally for the past two years. There was a spririted discussion but it soon became clear that those favoring a merger were in a distinct minority. The majority of the membership present believed that we might seek ways to cooperate with the British society, even seek some joint publications, but that we should remain a separate society. That being the will of the membership, we all agreed that it is time to get on with the business of strengthening our society and expanding the membership.

We discussed the bylaws, a subject that seems to have come up at each of our three conventions. Last month Bob Gunshanon wrote a thoughtful letter which in part said, ". . . being a good time to examine all aspects of the society, it might be well for the president to mail a copy of the bylaws to each member and ask for comments and revisions. There are at least a few members who feel changes should be made. A small bylaw revision committee could be formed if changes are called for." You will notice that the bylaws are enclosed because it was a good idea. If I receive comments that seem to indicate the need for some changes I will ask bob and others to act as a review committee to look at the comments and come back with the recommendations.

The meeting obviously sparked a lot of interest because many people commented to me after the meeting about issues they felt were important, and I got letters from Terry Borton, Blanche Owens, Bob Gunshanon, Joe Koch, Nancy Bergh and Leora Wells with helpful suggestions and constructive criticism. It was impressed with the concerns expressed by those present at the convention. I would like to hear from other society members who have comments , suggestions and the like. I look forward to hearing from all of you and high hopes for this being a momentous year for the society.

SOCIETY LEADERSHIP

At the Boston Convention, Dick Balzer voiced his opinion that he should step down as chairman of the society. Those in attendance, however, convinced Dick to stay on for another term. His leadership and guidance over the years has been a unifying force which has helped to keep the society alive. Dick has accepted the mandate but added, "I am willing to stay on, however, I still think if any member has the time, energy and enthusiasm to become the chairman, I will be more than happy to hand over the leadership."

Terry Borton has relinquished his position as treasurer. We want to thank Terry for his work. Terry has agreed to lead a Membership Drive Committee, and his thoughts on this important activity are found later in the *Bulletin*.

Jim Flanagan has agreed to become Treasurer and we are pleaed that he has come forward to aid the society.

With the resignation of Larry Rakow as Editor of our *Bulletin* (see next article), Ed Lennert has kindly agreed to put together the *Bulletin* and to take on the editor role until a new editor can be found. Anyone with an interest in being the editor on a permanent basis or could share the duties as a co-editor should contact Ed.

THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Report by Leora Wood Wells

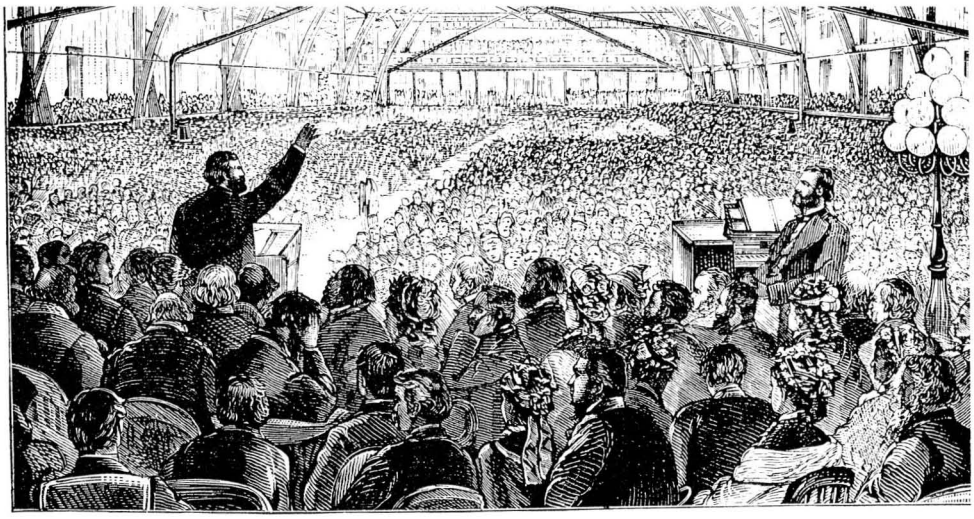
The 1987 Convention of the Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada was held June 26-28 at the Museum of Our National Heritage in Lexington, Massachusetts, It attracted members from several foreign countries as well as those form distant and nearby states.

The opening get together on Friday night at the Watertown home of Magic Lantern Society Chairman Dick Balzer and his wife gave members a mind-blowing sample of what lay ahead. First, there was the house itself — a superb, three story 1887 Victorian with towers and nooks and crannies, a magnificent staircase and beautifully detailed woodwork. Then there was the contents of the house — everywhere, magic lanterns and other optical devices, old engravings relating to magic lanterns, other ephemera, cases and cupboards and drawers full of everything to set a collector's mind spinning. Interspersed with these were whimsical touches such as a life-size sculptured figure seated on a landing, life-size cutout photos of a woman and a dog standing guard against intruders. To top it all off, there was a table laden with delectable foods from casseroles to melted brie with almonds. Guests were free to roam at will, poking into drawers, peeking into the peepshow, or simply standing dumb struck looking at the array of lanterns.

The museum in Lexington provides a lovely setting for conventions. The grounds are spacious, the parking adequate and the meeting room and auditorium facilities convenient. The first treat for the convention participants was the excellent show mounted by the museum staff to display many of the choicest items from the Balzer collection. This exhibit, which opened in February, will remain on display until mid-October. A full color catalogue of the exhibit is available.

Registration, on Saturday morning, brought more surprises. Each participant's convention kit contained not only the conference program but several reproductions of magic lantern ephemera, a flip book, two magic lantern rubber stamps and other related souvenirs.

Before and after the conference sessions, participants were free to go treasure hunting among the tables of lanterns and slides offered for sale by other members. On Sunday this opportunity was supplemented by an auction conducted with great verve by Dick Balzer and Larry Rakow. There seemed to be satisfaction on both sides as the merchandise changed hands. Ten percent of the auction proceeds went to the Society and the rest to the sellers.



The Presentations

On Saturday morning, ML Society chairman Richard Balzer opened the first formal session of the convention with "A Welcome to Tired Voyagers," a humorous acknowledgment of the great distances traveled by some members in order to attend. His slides showed them arriving in every conceivable condition and by many means of transportation from camels ("One hump or two?") to stage coaches to ocean-going ships.

Mike Smith of the British Society intrigued the conferees by giving his lecture the sinister title, "Condemned to be Shot." The slide series of this name tells the story of a Civil War soldier who volunteers to take the watch of an ailing friend. Despite his patriotic fervor and dedication, he falls asleep at his post while serving this double watch and is condemned to be shot. His young sister intervenes, marching herself straight into the White House to plead with President Abraham Lincoln — successfully, of course — to spare her beloved brother.

This slide series, appealing in its own right, was used by Mike to illustrate the work of Banforth, a pioneer in the use of live models in photographic magic lantern slides. Banforth painted backdrops similar to those used in stage productions and photographed costumed, live models in front of them. To enhance the sense of reality and provide the illusion of depth and perspective, he used a few real objects in the foreground — a chair, a lamppost, shrubbery or whatever was appropriate to the scene. Like all photographic slides of this period, these were hand colored.

Alan Katelle traced the evolution "From Magic Lanterns to Motion Pictures." After describing the early development of the magic lantern, Alan focused primarily on the technical and mechanical advances in lantern design and slide making which contributed specific elements to development of the motion picture.

X. Theodore Barber, currently working toward a graduate degree at New York University, discussed "Problems and Issues in Researching the Magic Lantern." His interest centered on the relationship between the documentary appraoch of such lantern slide photographers as social reformer Jacob Riis and the visual and editorial techniques used in contemporary documentary film making. He emphasized particularly how slide makers and lanternists shaped their presentations to stress particular points of view, just as today's documentary film makers do.

In his one man playlet, "Athanasius Kircher, the Woodcutter, and the Upsidedown Slide," Jim Flannagan provided a leavening touch of humor for the conferees. People have puzzled for years over why the letters on the slide in an early Kircher illustration are right side up rather than inverted as they would have to be if the projected image was to appear right side up. Playing both roles, Jim romped through an imaginary discussion between Kircher and the man who prepared the woodcut block for the illustration. Kircher, irate when he discovers the error, softens when the panic-stricken woodcutter fears his ten children will go hungry if he gets fired. So in Jim's version Kircher, out of charity and the pressure of an approaching deadline, agrees to let the error stand, assuming with a fair degree of snobbery that no one will really notice the difference anyhow.

Bringing back memories of the intervals between the double features in the movies, Joe Koch showed examples of "Forty Years of Advertising Slides." These slides, forerunner of today's television commercials, advertised products ranging from ladies' hats and monstrously uncomfortable looking corsets to vintage automobiles and men's shoes with pneumatic heels.

Many early magic lantern shows had storytelling content, from Little Red Riding Hood and other children's tales to sequences about famous battles and other historic events. Yet early movies, Charlie Musser pointed out in his film, "Before the Nickelodeon," lacked this storytelling element. They focused solely on the remarkable new phenomenon of pictures that actually moved, showing dancers whirling about in diaphanous costumes, heavy-muscled men running and jumping or — most famous of all early films — a couple exchanging kisses. Edwin Porter changed all that, developing clear storylines, using actors to reveal these stories dramatically, and achieving some remarkable special effects that paved the way for the refinements of later film makers.

Joseph Boggs Beale is considered by many to be the foremost magic lantern slide illustrator, but "How to Identify a Beale" sometimes puzzles collectors. In an outstanding presentation, Terry Borton provided valuable clues such as the excellent perspective in Beale's architectural structures and the amazing vitality and anatomical accuracy of his horses. In crowd scenes, which Beale did particularly well, the many figures are so close together that the slide is nearly filled with them, yet every detail to the finest ruffle of lace or feather on an angel wing is accurately represented. Beale, Terry noted, thought like a dramatist, and his slides are composed as if they were stage sets with the illusions of perspective and depth achieved by leaving the lowest third of the slide empty of figures and containing only such images as a patterned floor with the design leading the viewers' attention directly to the action focus of the scene.

Larry Rakow roused the envy of every member of his audience with the tale of the acquisition of his lantern and slide collection. A friend, helping an elderly neighbor clean out her attic, was instructed to take several large wooden boxes to the dump. But opening them, he found a magic lantern and an extensive set of slides. Although not sure of their significance, he thought they would interest Larry — and indeed they did. In talking with the old lady, he learned that the slides had belonged to her father, and she described the wonderful shows he had put on.

THE PROFESSOR OPTIX MAGIC LANTERN SHOW

GRAND STEREOPTICAL
DISSOLVING VIEWS

Larry determined to recreate this show. So, donning a tailcoat and top hat, he assumed the identity of "Professor Optix Revisited" and gave a rip-roaring show that ranged from comic motion slides to Edward Everett Halers' compelling story of *The Man Without A Country*. Because Larry's show was open to the public as well as to members of the Magic Lantern Society, he had a large and appreciative audience. Judging by the astonished reactions, a good many of them had never seen motion slides before, so the sudden, subtle movements of the eyes of a screen image or the loss of a head rather than a tooth to a dentist brought delighted laughter.

Since the meeting was held in a suburb of Boston, John Hodin's scenes of "Old Boston" provided an appropriate climax to the convention sessions.

The final treat for the members, on Sunday evening, was the opportunity to see Jack Naylor's private museum of photographica, a superb collection which Society Chairman Dick Balzer admitted "blew him away" the first time he saw it.

Appreciation

The success of the convention was due to the efforts and contributions of many members, including those who gave the presentations. But particular plaudits go to Chairman Dick Balzer, who did such a superb job of organization, his wife Eileen and children Julie and Matthew who were wonderful hosts and kept things running with remarkable smoothness. Terry and Debbie Borton and Larry and Susan Rakow also carried heavy responsibilities in planning the whole thing and making it work, and Dick Evans, whose generosity makes printing of the *Magic Lantern Bulletin* possible, also contributed the printing of the convention kits and their contents.

The convention as a whole was well planned and great care had been given to the comfort and convenience of the attending members in such matters as the informal but delicious picnic fare provided for lunch each day so the group didn't have to scatter in search of restaurants. The Chinese Banquet on Saturday night was reported by those who attended to be nothing short of fantastic — excellent food in a beautiful setting. All of these, plus the get together at the Balzers, the exhibit at the museum and the absorbing presentations on the program made the whole experience memorable. Added to this was the opportunity to renew acquaintances among the widely scattered members and to meet for the first time other members known previously only through correspondence. As one of the members put it, "This will be a hard act to follow" — but even before the meeting ended, people were looking forward to the next convention.

THE MAGIC LANTERN SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

Chairman: Dick Balzer
897 Belmont Street
Watertown, MA 02172

Editor: **The Magic Lantern Bulletin**
Edward Lennert
96 Lac Kine Drive
Rochester, NY 14618

Secretary/Treasurer:
James Flanagan
P.O. Box 431
Sparta, NJ 07871

The Magic Lantern Bulletin is printed by Evans Printing, Solon, Ohio

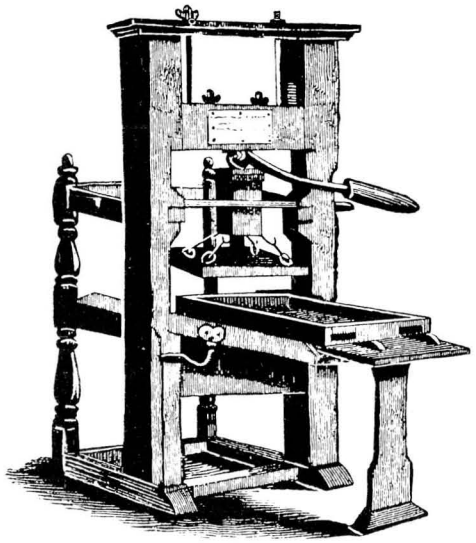
THANK YOU LARRY!

Since 1982, Larry Rakow has had the arduous task of overseeing the production and publication of the *Magic Lantern Bulletin*. While Larry has always graciously acknowledged all the support he gets from other members, we all know that the publication has been primarily a one-person production. At the Boston Convention, Larry announced his resignation as the Editor of our *Bulletin*. The success of Larry's growing business, Kidstamps, has occupied his time, making it impossible to find the time and energy to develop the *Bulletin*. Larry has been a terrific editor, continuing the high standards of the *Bulletin's* first editor, Leona Wells. The entire society owes Larry a debt of gratitude. With the help of Dick Evans, the journal's printer, Larry has developed the *Bulletin* into a publication in which we can all take a great deal of pride. To Larry, as well a his many faithful contributors over the last five years, the society says, "THANK YOU!"

CONVENTION GOODIES

Reprints of two 19 century "Chap Books" given to those who attended the 1987 Convention.

— SHARE THE HISTORY —



In this age of disposable everything, sometimes we forget that some things may have a bearing on the future. So it probably was in the past when the illustrations and text of the slide sets and early visual machinery was lost or discarded.

"When everything else fails, read the directions" is a humorous phrase we often use. But yesterday's directions are not easy to find. Consider the beauty of being able to share your printed matter with others who may not have it. A slide or set may have added beauty and significance with the original words to complete the presentation.

For those collectors who have never given a slide presentation, it all becomes very easy and enjoyable when the original words are there to read for the viewers.

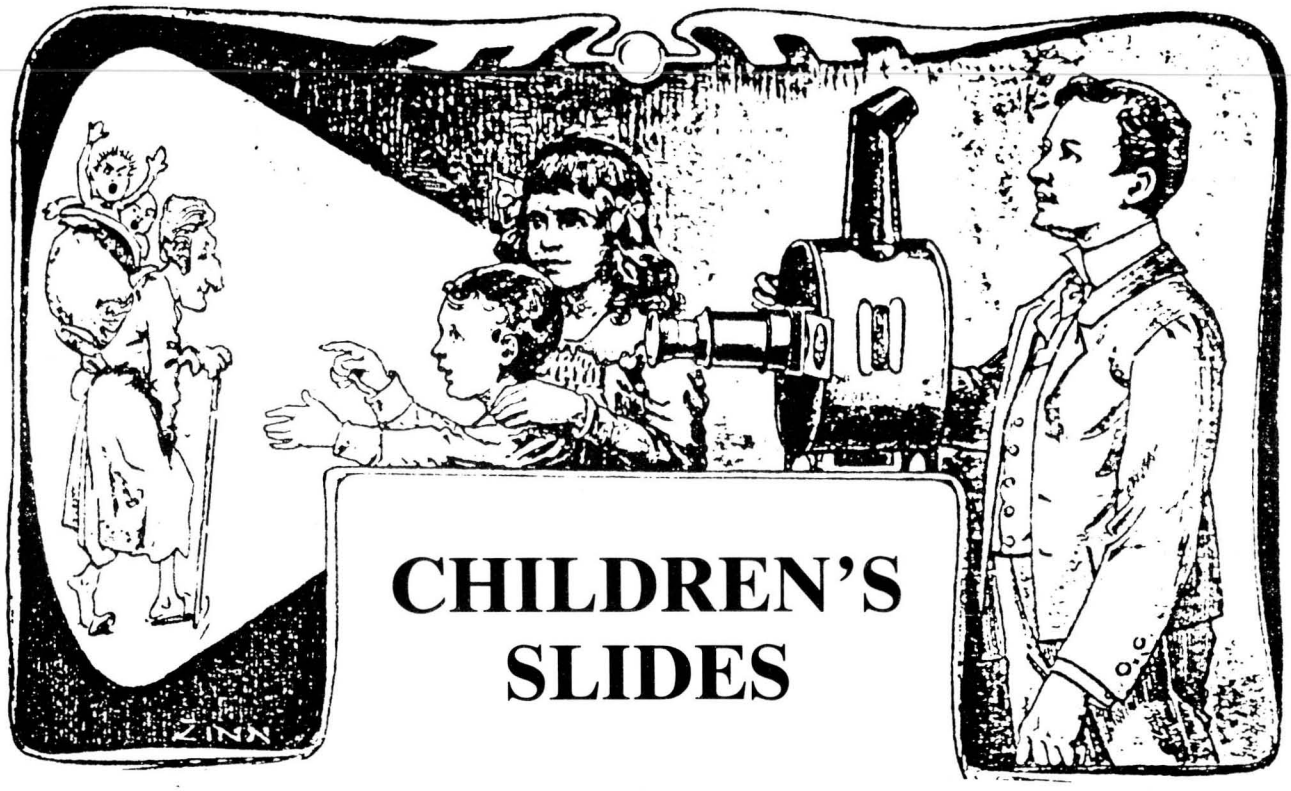
Also, there were pamphlets and booklets printed describing magic lanterns and other optical equipment that would be great information sources for other collectors.

In this issue you will find a print for the members of the Magic Lantern Society. It is suitable for framing and it is given at no cost to you. Others in the future will be available, some hand tinted, at a nominal fee to cover the cost of production and mailing. Any proceeds will go to the Magic Lantern Society for operating expenses.

We hope you will accept this print with pride and look through your collection for any printed material you can share with fellow members. If you have something of interest, please send it to Richard Evans, Evans Printing Company, 33540 Bainbridge Road, Solon, Ohio 44139.

It will be photographed and documented and returned to you in perfect condition. Copies will be made for the library for our members. It will be noted, if you approve, that the piece was from your collection.

Also, if you have any needs of printed matter, slide sets, or any specific matter, we will try to put a "WANTED" column in the newsletter for other members to see.



CHILDREN'S SLIDES

by THE OLD PROJECTIONIST *BOB BISHOP*

Usually, Father's magic lantern in the parlor was of good size. It could accept any transparency issued by the scores of slide producers in the market place. The child's toy lantern, on the other hand, was scaled down in size. Nevertheless, a large selection of individual transparencies and literally thousands of sets of different slide series about every conceivable subject were available. A certain percentage of these sets were aimed directly at young children of the Gaslight era.

In a small sales catalogue entitled *Optical Lanterns and How to Use Them,* Alex J. Jones has written several short essays about the lantern. Then follows pages of illustrations and specification about Butcher magic lanterns and accessories. Other Butcher products such as light sources, acetyline generators, gas jets, arc lights, fine gas adjustment valves, lenses, slide carriers, lantern stands, and even a "castanette" are shown: "Well made with substantial steel spring; gives a clearly defined signal which cannot be mistaken. Price 9DA."

But for our purpose the description of the children's slide series is most revealing of earlier tiems. Starting with the "Primus Junior Lecturer's Lantern Slides, 3¼ x 3¼. Best Quality Lithographic, Well Coloured," there are twenty selections of tiny tot tales. *Jack the Giant Killer, The Tiger and the Tub, Hey Diddle Diddle,* and *Mr. and Mrs. Brown and the Mouse* are typical. All have printed readings on the side of the slide.

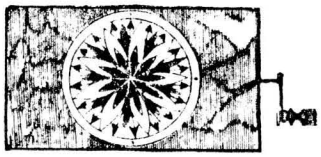
Series "B" has thirty-six entires for older children. Included are *Tales of Robin Hood, The British Army, Gulliver's Travels, The Life of King Edward VII,* not to forget *Famous British Locomotives.* A special item was *Water Babies,* "a beautiful fairy story extracted from Charles Kingsley's book." Evidently the slide maker considered 24 transparencies would completely illuminate the classic.

Several sections of religious series follow: "Exact reproductions of pictures taken from world famous collections, true to originals." In this same section *The Life of David Livingstone, Explorer, and Missionary,* is shown in 40 slides, "Produced in coloured lithos with great care from material lent by the London Missionary Society."

The entirety of World War I is presented in ten chapters, "either in litho or photographic in good colour." Still another action series was, *With Allenby in Palestine.* Shown is the graphic story of the capture of the Holy Land from the Turks. *From Gaza to Damascus* is shown in 88 slides. "Cost 8 pounds, ten shillings." If one had the money it would have been possible to show a separate slide series every day for many years.

Interesting and informative as many of the features were, still it was the dream of every young budding lanternist to possess the mechanical slides shown in the catalogue. The Butcher sales book states that 12 litho slipping slides were in stock, with over 500 hand painted slippers in reserve. The slipping slide gives a two or more point animation. For example, a mother is shown spanking her little boy. The mother's left hand holds the little boy across her lap. Her right arm is shown in two positions, hand on child's rump and also raised in the air. A second glass set in grooves slips back and forth. Appropriate blacked out areas on this clear glass hide the raised arm and hand while exposing to view the hand striking the little boy's backsides. The slipping glass is moved to the other position and covers the hand on the boy's rump but exposing to vision the hand in the air. The memory of the eye supplies the rest and the mother effectively spanks her child. Another slip slide shows a single rosebud unfolding to expose a full bloom with the little Cupid aiming his arrow of love. In this case two slipping clear glasses are pulled, one from either side.

Chromotropes, or fireworks, slides were always in popular demand. Single, double and triple rackwork run slides lit up the screen with brilliant displays of light. Rackwork slides could also make a windmill revolve on the screen, effectively showing the earth rounding the sun, the moon circling the earth and going through its lunatic changes, all in one slide.



Lever slides could make the image of a horse lower its head and apparently drink, or cause a sailing ship to rock on the waves. the silhouette slides, a form of lever slides, must have been fun to work: "Over 26 subjects to choose from, amusing mechanical devices, an entertainment by themselves." The tiny articulated figures (in the slide) are made of metal with loose joints and are very strong. Each slide has a scene painted in the background which, therefore, gives a very natural effect as the little figures dance."

But of course, dancing is contagious. I am sure the lucky young people of an earlier day who owned these wonderful children's slides also danced for joy. You can believe it.

. . . The Old Projectionist

FUTURE ISSUES

We need articles on . . .

OPTICAL DEVICES:
Many members are collectors of optical devices or optical toys and the *Bulletin* would like to extend its coverage to feature articles on this subject.

UNUSUAL ITEMS:
Do you have an unusual piece of equipment, rare slides, catalogs, etcetera? Please send in a picture and 25+ words describing the item.

CINE TOPICS:
All you CINE collectors must have numerous stories to be told. How about sharing your interests with the *Bulletin* readers!

WE ALSO NEED PHOTOGRAPHS . . .
With all the clicking and flashing that went on at our Boston Conference there must be hundreds of photos of the gala event out there somewhere. Please send in copies of anything you have for the next *Bulletin*.

Terry Borton

I'm glad to report that our financial position is strong, due largely to the generosity of some of our members who have donated services that we would have to have otherwise purchased. Even after all back bills are paid off and all convention expenses have been covered, we emerge with a very healthy balance of $2,680.83 on hand.

I am also glad to say that Jim Flannigan has volunteered to take over as Treasurer. Please send all further financial communications, including dues, to him at P.O. Box 431, Sparta, NJ 07871.

I have agreed to serve as membership chairman, and would appreciate any assistance I can get. My address is 26 S. Side Bluff, Haddam, CT 06438 (203) 345-2574.

Our membership has declined over the past several years, from a peak of just over a hundred, until it now totals 75, of which 14 are foreign members.

Membership is important to us all — more members mean more friends with whom to share our interests; more research into a field that is still almost unexplored; more people with whom to buy, sell, or swap; and more money to support Society activities.

So here's a plan to increase membership, which we will institute right away, barring objections from the current members.

Our Goal: Double the membership in '88!

Our Tactics:

Each one find one. We're asking each of you, right away, to find a candidate and twist an arm. This works. Since I first wrote this I've tried it, and I have a new member! So twist now, and twist hard!

Seed the markets. With your next *Bulletin* you will be receiving cards that describe Society services and give our address. Take these cards with you when you go antique hunting and leave them (with permission) in the lanterns or slide bundles you don't buy. That way any person who buys a lantern will know where to get information. Dealers should love this service!

Target markets. I will begin this Fall mailing information about us, and a sample *Bulletin* to members of photographic groups, etc. who have expressed interest in magic lanterns and related areas.

I have one such list (The American Photographic Historical Society). If you have others, please send them to me and I will do the mailing.

Advertise. We will invest $500 of our current balance to advertise in antique journals, etc., beginning this Fall. If you have a publication you would like to see us advertise in, please send the address to me.

Find Gold in the West. The center of the movie industry is California, yet we have very few members there. California members, or pre-cine experts, how do we tap this market? Please write me, or call.

Showman Solicitation. those of us who do shows should actively solicit members at the performance. It's been my experience that people are a little overwhelmed after shows and have difficulty imagining themselves as collectors. Be explicit that the Society is meant to help people learn about lanterns, and make explicit offers to help people get started, including offering some cheap slides for sale.

Publications. Those of you who are working on books or articles for the public, please be sure to mention us and give an address.

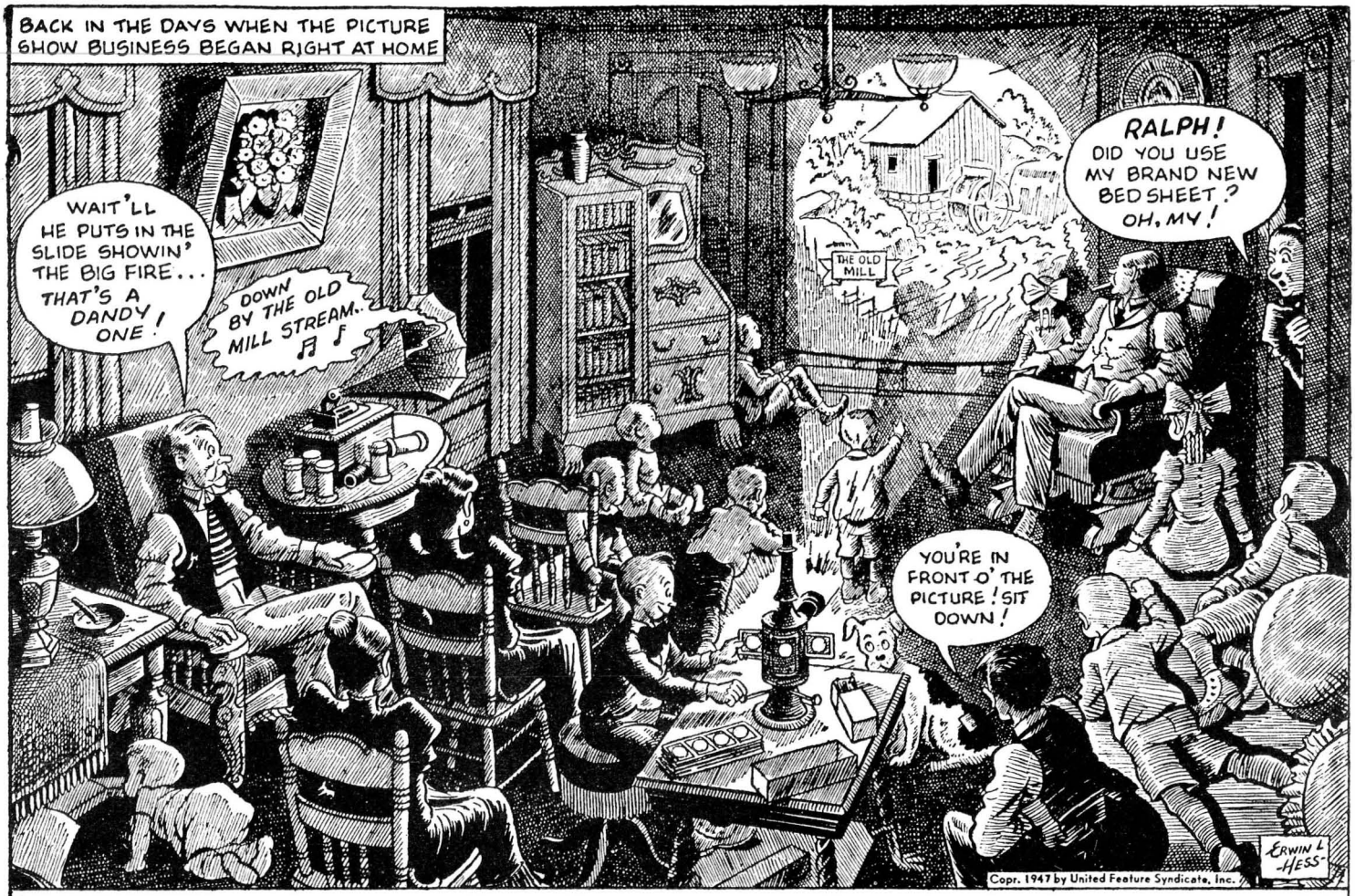
Old Members. Some of our old members undoubtedly left us because they were not satisfied with our services. Once we get our house in order, we should go back to them with a free issue of the latest Bulletin, and re-recruit.

Your Ideas. What other ideas do you have for how we can increase membership? Put them to work now, and write me a note about them so that I can share them with others.

Remember: Double the membership in '88. Any why not quadruple? Or more! I can't believe there aren't 1,000 people out there who would love to be members.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

By Erwin L. Hess


BACK IN THE DAYS WHEN THE PICTURE SHOW BUSINESS BEGAN RIGHT AT HOME
WAIT'LL HE PUTS IN THE SLIDE SHOWIN' THE BIG FIRE... THAT'S A DANDY ONE!
DOWN BY THE OLD MILL STREAM..
THE OLD MILL
RALPH! DID YOU USE MY BRAND NEW BED SHEET? OH, MY!
YOU'RE IN FRONT O' THE PICTURE! SIT DOWN!
Copr. 1947 by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.
ERWIN L HESS

LOTS OF PEOPLE, THESE DAYS, SHUDDER AT THE THOUGHT THAT FOLKS HAD NO MOVIES YEARS AGO.... MAYBE THERE WERE NO NICKEL SHOWS TO SHAG TO... BUT, FOLKS HAD THEIR OWN "SHOWS"... WHY, THEY EVEN HAD "TALKIES"... Y'BETCHA! THEIR PICTURES DIDN'T MOVE, BUT THE TALKING MACHINE SURE MADE 'EM SEEM LIKE THEY DID.

BUY/SELL/TRADE

Wanted: Slides of Christmas, Halloween, and anything by Joseph Boggs Beale. Terry Borton, Bridge Road, Haddam, CT 06438.

For Sale: Lantern slides, features public events taken around early 1900s. Best offer. Marian Sonday, 64 Harmund Place, Wetherfield, CT 06109 (203) 529-6372.

Wanted: Toy lanterns, mechanical slides, and catalogs. Ed Lennert, 96 Lackine Dr., Rochester, NY 14618 (716) 461-3608.

A SOCIETY AUCTION

Should the Society conduct a mail auction or sale????

HOW IT MIGHT WORK:

Each participating member would write a brief description of the item(s) they have for sale. Included would be a sale price or minimum acceptable bid (if in the auction), the condition of the item(s), and an estimated shipping and insurance cost.

The auction/sale catalog would be sent to all members. A 15% commission would go to the Society to cover the cost of printing and distributing the catalog. All auction bids and purchase offers would go to a central location via telephone or mail. The sellers would be supplied the name and address of the buyer(s) of their merchandise. It would be the responsibility of the seller to ship the goods to the buyer.

INTERESTED???? . . . let Ed Lennert hear from you.